

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

What happens next?



Our Bereavement Service is here to guide you through the practical steps that have to be taken after someone dies. We understand that this may be a difficult time for you, but we will provide you with support and advice.

As our phones are really busy please do not phone us - we will make contact with you. This will be on the first working day after the death, and is likely to be in the morning, however during busy periods this may not be until the afternoon. We will explain to you what happens next and answer any questions you may have. We are mindful that the death may have occurred overnight, so you may not hear from us until later in the day to respect your privacy.

Our role is to arrange the paperwork for you and where possible to book you an appointment with a Registrar for you to register the death.

When the paperwork is ready, we will contact you and arrange a suitable time for you to collect it from the hospital.

Medical Certificate of Cause of Death

To register the death, you need a medical certificate issued by one of the Doctors involved in the care of the patient, which we will organise for you.

In some cases, a death is reported to the Coroner, who may decide that a post mortem examination is needed. If this happens, please be assured that we will keep you fully informed.

Funeral arrangements

When you are ready, contact can be made with a Funeral Director who will guide you through the next steps. A list of Funeral Directors can be provided.

Donation of tissue

You may wish to consider the gift of tissue donation. A leaflet about what is involved is available, so please ask a member of staff on the ward for one. Please be assured that any decision you take will be treated with the utmost respect.

We are open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.30pm.
Do leave us an answerphone message - we will
return your call.

John Radcliffe Hospital

Headley Way
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Churchill Hospital

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Horton General Hospital

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